

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

The reading this week from Luke tells us about the first sermon which Jesus preached and very radical it was indeed. It was all going rather well and people were astonished at the words of grace coming out of Jesus mouth. However Jesus began to teach the people and ascribed to himself the fulfilment of scripture. This provoked jealousy and criticism and words which showed that people were sceptical about thinking that Jesus was anything other than just an ordinary person like everybody else. In the week ahead we recall the atrocities of the Holocaust, the Shoah. The theme this year is 'One Day'. What is it that God would have us as individuals speak out about now, 'One Day', a day when things change and to live as God intended?

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. *Common Worship*

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Welcoming Mother Ada Onyekwelu – Next Steps at Holy Innocents and St Mark

As we are all aware, the vacancy for a priest has been more than a year long, and for various reasons, a new incumbent may not be appointed until later this year. The Bishop of Croydon, +Rosemarie, has therefore invited Mother Ada and Mother Susan to use the next few months in preparing the ground in both churches for a new incumbent. Mother Ada will focus her time with St Mark, Mother Susan will focus her time with Holy Innocents. We will both collaborate to build bridges between the parishes creatively and ensuring good practice going forward. Both parishes will retain their distinctive identities while we will also develop ways to work together. If you have any queries, please contact either of us.

With God's Blessing and our prayers - Mother Ada and Mother Susan

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Celebrating Lay Ministries

The Celebration of Lay Ministries will take place throughout our diocese on Sunday 2 February (Candlemas). This will be an opportunity to affirm and celebrate the many dedicated lay people who give tirelessly of their time and talent in service to others and to the Church as liturgical ministers, ministers of consolation, members of the finance and pastoral councils, adult faith formation coordinators, liturgical planners and so many other roles.

Both Holy Innocents and St Mark will be taking the opportunity to say thank you to the many people who offer a great deal to our mission and ministry in South Norwood.

Welcome to the United Benefice of Holy Innocents and St. Mark, South Norwood

Sharing God's grace and love in our community



26th January 2025

Vicar: Vacant

Priest (PTO): Revd. Mother Susan
Wheeler-Kiley, TSSF, SCP

Reader (PTO): Mrs. Cicelyn Hinds

THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

8.00am BCP Mass (St. Mark)

10am Parish Mass (Both Parishes)

*Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10 * Psalm 19 1-6 * 1 Corinthians 12.12-31a *
Luke 4.13-21*

Today we welcome **Mother Susan Height**
who will be presiding and preaching at Holy Innocents

Access online worship via
www.youtube.com/c/StMarksSouthNorwood

CHURCH NOTICES

Pastoral Care: for enquiries regarding baptism, confirmation, weddings, blessings, house blessings, renewal of marriage vows, thanksgiving for the birth of a child, to make your confession, or to request a home or hospital visit, please contact Mother Susan 07890 780572, fs.kiley@btinternet.com or Cicelyn Hinds 07484 677951. Please note that Mother Susan's day off is Friday.

The Benefice is in vacancy. For Parish matters, please contact in the first instance, the respective church wardens, St Mark – Norma McKnight (ndwillis12@outlook.com) and Cicelyn Hinds (cahinds@btinternet.com) Holy Innocents – Church.warden@holyinnocentschurch.co.uk

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We pray: for Archbishop Stephen; for the Bishops in this diocese, Christopher, Martin, Rosemarie and Alastair. For the Bishops, priests, deacons and people in our link Dioceses of Zimbabwe and The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria.

St Stephen with St Mark, Lewisham Michael Bailey (Vicar)(Assistant Area Dean), Francis Gardom (Assistant Priest), Peter Hudson (Assistant Priest) St Stephen's CofE Primary School.

For the sick - Barbara, Emma, Santosh, Rona, Don, John, Richard, Alec, Leonard, Marina, Reiss, Malik, Simon and Janet.

The recently departed and those whose Years Mind falls at this time.